

ACTION

AGENDA ITEM : Regional Library Network Development**ISSUES TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD AT THIS MEETING:**

1. Consider requests for network affiliation of new members and requests for inclusion of additional participating libraries by existing members.
2. Advise Regional Library Networks concerning regional plans of service.

RECOMMENDED MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE BOARD: I move that the Library of California Board approve the 5 requests for network affiliation for the potential members listed in Table A, with member services to begin immediately.

ISSUE 1: Network Affiliation

Included in **Table A, Requests for Network Affiliation for New Members**, are the membership applications received from potential new members. These 5 applications have been approved by the boards of their regional library networks, and forwarded to the Board for your approval. These 5 members represent 5 participating libraries.

According to the LoC Regulations, Section 20313, all requests for affiliation with regional library networks shall be approved by regional library networks and forwarded to the State Board for action. Board policy allows for members to begin to receive member benefits immediately upon Board action, although network compensation will be assigned annually upon approval of the State Budget. All applications listed below have met the requirements of this regulation.

Table A
Requests for Network Affiliation for New Members

CASCADE PACIFIC**Member**

Hamilton Union High School District

Participating Library

Hamilton Union High School Library

ARROYO SECO**Members**

Los Angeles Harbor College

Salvation Army-Crestmont College

The Webb Schools

Participating Libraries

Library

Crestmont College Library/Elftman Memorial Library

Fawcett Memorial Library

HEARTLAND**Member**

Kern Medical Center

Participating Library

Kern Health Sciences Library

Recommendation:

Los Angeles Harbor College, listed above, is changing its affiliation from being a participating library of the Los Angeles Community College District to being a separate member. This change is consistent with that of other community colleges that requested separate membership and that the Board has approved at past meetings. All other libraries are new members and new participating libraries.

For the past year, staff has been including approval of new memberships on the Board's consent calendar as approval has been a routine Board action. As there is no funding for the either statewide or regional programs for the Library of California in the proposed budget for next fiscal year, staff felt that the Board may want to discuss the ramifications of adding new members at this meeting. As there is not a significant cost to adding these new members at this time, staff is recommending approval of these memberships, with service to begin immediately. Revised membership statistics, including these new members and participating libraries, are attached as Exhibit A.

ISSUE 2: Regional Plans of Service

Each year, at the February Board meeting, the Board has provided the regional library networks with information concerning funding for their regional plans of service. According to Section 20320 of the Library of California Regulations, an annual plan of service shall be filed with the Board "by April 1 of the fiscal year immediately preceding the fiscal year for which funds are requested." In past years, the Board developed funding targets for plans of service so that regional library networks could both prepare their plans and submit them to their regional councils for approval prior to April 1. This year, however, no funds are projected to be available in fiscal year 2003/04 for either regional or statewide service provision.

Staff consulted the State Library's legal counsel Paul Smith concerning the lack of funding for LoC regions and the requirement for plans of service. His recommendation is that the Board should simply state that it will not be able to fund services provided by the regions. However, if a region wishes to submit a plan of service anyway, in the unlikely event that funds are made available, the region is free to do so. Such a statement should cover the Board's duty under the applicable regulations. Staff recommends that the Board follow counsel's advise and so inform the regional library networks.

RELATED ISSUES TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD IN THE FUTURE:

1. Consider additional membership/participating library applications from institutions and/or public library jurisdictions.
2. Consider transitional issues related to regional library network services.

Relevant Committee: Support Services
Staff Liaison: Diana Paque

Regional Library Network Membership as of the February 2003 Board Meeting*

	Region I: Cascade Pacific	Region II: Golden Gateway	Region III: Sierra Valley	Region IV: Arroyo Seco	Region V: Tierra del Sol	Region VI: Heartland	Region VII: Gold Coast	TOTAL
Academic								
Colleges/Universities	9	47	16	51	24	11	14	172
Participating Libraries	9	78	23	78	38	13	16	255
Public								
Library Jurisdictions	13	48	21	43	31	9	7	172
Participating Libraries	68	244	134	275	164	95	49	1029
School								
Districts/Independent	14	34	22	37	16	19	8	150
Participating Libraries	23	82	59	132	56	63	12	427
Special								
Agencies	4	27	21	18	23	13	16	122
Participating Libraries	4	29	23	25	27	14	17	139
Regional Totals	Region I:	Region II:	Region III:	Region IV:	Region V:	Region VI:	Region VII:	TOTAL
Members	40	156	80	149	94	52	45	616
Participating Libraries	104	433	239	510	285	185	94	1850

*Subject to Board Approval at the February 19, 2003 meeting